

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **18 January 2006** the Examiner reviewed claims 1-21. The title of the reference listed on page 2 of the specification was incorrect. Claims 1, 8, and 15 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haggar et al (USPub 2002/0091904, hereinafter "Haggar") in view of Shaylor (USPub 2002/0108025, hereinafter "Shaylor"). Claims 4-7, 11-14, and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haggar in view of Shaylor in view of Otis (USPub 2002/0099765, hereinafter "Otis").

Objections to the specification

The title of the reference listed on page 2 of the specification was incorrect.

Applicant has amended paragraph [0006] of the instant application to correct the title of the reference. No new matter has been added.

Objections to the claims

Claims 1, 8, and 15 were objected to because of informalities.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, and 15 to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 1-21 were rejected as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, and 15 to remove the limitation of "subsequent memory compaction." No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 were rejected as being unpatentable over Haggar in view of Shaylor. Examiner avers that Haggar teaches “other tasks continue normal execution without interruption due to garbage collection” at paragraphs 0040-41.

Applicant respectfully points out that Haggar does not mention tasks or tasking, and only **separates the heap into a handle and a storage block area** (see Haggar, FIG. 2 and paragraph [0046]). Thus, Haggar cannot allow other tasks to continue normal execution without interruption due to garbage collection. Additionally, Applicant respectfully points out that Shaylor does not provide for garbage collection. Shaylor is directed to mapping storage to tasks in a **virtual storage system** (see Shaylor, Abstract). As such, Shaylor is concerned only with memory swaps between physical storage and virtual storage.

The present invention provides a technique to garbage-collect the heap storage for an individual task **without interrupting any other tasks** during the garbage collection (see paragraph [0036] of the instant application). This is beneficial because it allows other tasks to continue normal operation during the garbage-collection cycle of a given task. There is nothing within Haggar or Shaylor, either separately or in concert, which suggests providing a technique to garbage-collect the heap storage for an individual task without interrupting any other tasks during the garbage collection.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 8, and 15 to clarify that the present invention provides a technique to garbage-collect the heap storage for an individual task without interrupting any other tasks during the garbage collection. These amendments find support in paragraph [0036] of the instant application.


Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 8, and 15 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2-7, which depend upon claim 1, claims 9-14, which depend upon claim 8,

and claims 16-21, which depend upon claim 15, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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